United Nations A/54/881

General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 151
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Letter dated 24 May 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Following the statements made by the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia in the Fifth Committee, I have been instructed by my Government to advise of the following.

The representatives of the three countries have abused the debate in the Fifth Committee on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for political purposes and their malicious statements concerning the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are unfounded and tendentious. Considering that the Fifth Committee is not a forum to discuss the status of a State Member of the United Nations, the statements of the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia are yet another failed attempt to revise General Assembly resolution 47/1 of 22 September 1992, regulating the participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the General Assembly of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies and conferences organized under their auspices.

Clarifying the practical consequences of the adoption of the aforementioned resolution, the Legal Counsel of the United Nations maintained in his opinion of 29 September 1992 (A/47/485, annex) that the resolution "neither terminates nor suspends Yugoslavia's membership in the Organization", which has become the generally accepted position of the United Nations on the participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the work of the General Assembly. The invocation of Security Council resolution 777 (1992) is immaterial as it does not regulate the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the General Assembly, which instead is regulated only by General Assembly resolution 47/1.

The position of the General Assembly relative to the continuing membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations has been confirmed on many occasions by resolutions adopted in this organ since the adoption of its resolution 47/1, in particular resolutions 47/229 and 52/215.

00-44953 (E) 020600

Furthermore, following the admission of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia to the United Nations, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia continued to participate in the work of, and vote in, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies until 22 September 1992 and 29 April 1993, respectively.

The General Assembly has regularly assessed the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia its annual contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations (1998: 0.060; 1999: 0.034; and 2000: 0.026), while the Secretary-General and the Secretariat of the United Nations continue to communicate with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as with any other State Member of the United Nations.

All documents and written communications of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with the Security Council and the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies and United Nations specialized agencies are issued and circulated as documents of the United Nations.

In the agreements on normalization of relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that Macedonia and Croatia signed on 8 April 1996 and 23 August 1996, respectively, and in the Joint Declaration that the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina signed in Paris on 3 October 1996, the three States accepted the State continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, i.e., that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is a State of continuity and not a new State.

Finally, following the adoption of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on 27 April 1992 and the declaration made on that occasion by its Parliament to the effect that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia would continue the international legal and political personality of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the subsequent notification thereof to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and all its Member States, none of them objected to the claim contained in the declaration notwithstanding the relevant practice of international law that such objections, if any, be made immediately.

In taking issue with the highly politically motivated attempts to question the status of my country in the world Organization, I would like to recall that, despite the fact that it has been unjustly denied full participation in the work of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and that it is faced with a very difficult economic situation caused by years-long economic sanctions and the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization last year, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has heeded all calls you have addressed to the United Nations Member States and, whenever able to afford it, paid its contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations and carried out scrupulously all other obligations stemming from its membership in the United Nations and other international organizations. The contention that the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations is linked with, and contingent upon, the solution of the issues of the succession of the previous Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is unfounded and aimed at confusing the States Members of the world Organization. The status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should be solved in accordance with the Charter and the relevant rules of the United Nations, while the succession issues, i.e., the division of the assets and liabilities of the previous Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are the subject of a negotiation conducted between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Yugoslav republics, turned independent States, in which all participants are equal and which, on the basis of an

agreement based on the principles of international law, should lead to solutions acceptable to all.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 151.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 49 (b)
United Nations reform measures and proposals: the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations

Letter dated 22 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instruction from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the text of the position paper of the People's Republic of China on the Millennium Summit of the United Nations (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 49 (b).

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

00-45081 (E) 310500

Annex to the letter dated 22 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese and English]

Position paper of the People's Republic of China on the Millennium Summit of the United Nations

Peace and development are the two major themes of the world today. As humanity enters the new century and the new millenium, it is the wish of people of all nations that the lofty course of world peace and development be pushed forward and a just and equitable new international political and economic order be established. These are the pressing tasks before the international community and therefore should become the objectives of the United Nations in the 21st century. In China's view, to fulfill these objectives, the following must be done:

I. To carry on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and promote international peace, security, prosperity and justice

Experiences in the 20th century have proven that the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, such as sovereignty and territorial integrity, political independence, non-interference in other countries' internal affairs, non-use and non-threat of force and peaceful solutions to international disputes, as well as the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are the basic principles of international law and constitute the fundamental guarantee for world peace and security. In the past half-century after the War, world peace has relied on the adherence to and defense of these basic principles. The purposes and principles of the UN Charter and other basic principles of international law, far from being outdated, should be maintained and strengthened as the basic principles and effective guidelines for state-state relations.

II. To strengthen the role of the UN and maintain the authority of the Security Council

As the most representative inter-governmental international organization, the UN plays an irreplaceable leading role in international affairs. It is the shared responsibility of all member states to defend and reinforce the role of the UN. Member states should take real actions to render political, financial and human resources support to the UN.

The UN Security Council has the primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security. No country or group of countries should have the privilege to take precedence over the Security Council. In international relations, all actions of coercion involving the use of force, including those under regional organizations or arrangements, should have the explicit authorization of the Security Council. Council-authorized multi-national operations should strictly abide by relevant mandates by the Security Council. The reform of the UN should reflect the common will and interests of all member states, and, most important, the interests of the great number of developing countries must be protected. The reform of the Security Council should give priority to better representation of the developing countries.

III. To enhance the democratization of international political relations and promote the establishment of a just and equitable new international political order

All countries, large or small, rich or poor, strong or weak, are equal members of the international community and have the right to participate as equals in international affairs and in solutions of global issues. The internal affairs of a country should be left to its own people to handle. Major issues in the world should be solved through equal consultation among countries on the basis of mutual respect. This is the democratic principle in handling international affairs. Forcing one's own will, modalities or values upon others by relying on one's economic, technological and military strength runs entirely against the democratic principle.

We should earnestly carry out the above-mentioned democratic principle in international relations and promote the establishment of a just and equitable new international political order on the basis of observing the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and other basic principles of international law.

IV. To change the inequitable international economic order and promote the establishment of a just and equitable new international economic order

The pace of economic globalization has made it more necessary than

ever before to have a just and equitable new international economic order. The phenomenon of the rich becoming richer and the poor becoming poorer should not be allowed to continue. The international financial and trade systems should be reformed to be fair and impartial and to enable developing countries to participate more fully in the decision-making process. The UN should play a leading role in this regard. To tame the negative impacts of globalization and narrow the gap between the North and the South should not only be a goal for developing countries but also an issue that deserves the full attention of developed countries. Developed countries must demonstrate their political will and take effective and real actions to open markets, transfer technologies, provide debt relief and increase official development assistance to the developing countries with no conditions attached, so as to reduce the North-South gap. The UN should give precedence to the promotion of development. A just and equitable new international economic order will conduce to the development and prosperity of all countries.

V. To establish a new concept of security, push forward the disarmament process and safeguard international security

To safeguard peace and security for the whole humanity in the 21st century, we need to formulate a new concept of security, one that features mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation.

The aim of disarmament is to increase security for all countries. It should become neither a tool for stronger nations to control the weaker ones nor an instrument for a few countries to optimize their own armament in order to seek security superiority.

For a long time to come, nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament will remain, as it is today, an important task for the international community. Eliminating nuclear weapons and rooting out the dangers of a nuclear war represent the common aspiration of all peoples in the world. The 21st century should be a century witnessing the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons.

Progress in nuclear disarmament cannot be achieved without the global strategic equilibrium and stability. The research, development, deployment and proliferation of advanced anti-missile systems and the

revision of or even withdrawal from the existing disarmament treaties on which the global strategic equilibrium hinges will inevitably exert an extensive impact on international security and stability. The international community must take necessary measures to preempt this dangerous development.

VI. To respect each other, engage in dialogues as equals and to promote and protect human rights and basic freedoms

All nations should respect the acknowledged basic principles of the UN Charter and international human rights instruments and promote international human rights dialogues and exchanges. Human rights should be promoted as a whole rather than divided up. Common actions in realizing economic, social, cultural rights and the right to development should be strengthened. Practices to politicize human rights issues, create confrontations and even interfere in other countries' internal affairs must be stopped. To put human rights above sovereignty or interfere in other countries' internal affairs by force under the pretext of humanitarianism not only runs counter to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter but also is detrimental to the course of promoting and protecting human rights. The diversity of the world should be respected and so should every country's and every region's inheritance and development of their own cultural traditions and social values.

It has become a common understanding of all nations in the world that democracy must be enhanced, the rule of law strengthened and human rights protected. Nations have the right to choose their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and paths to development. Only by accommodating the domestic conditions and people's requirements in all countries is it possible to effectively expand and improve democracy as well as the rule of law and to promote and protect human rights.

VII. To strengthen international cooperation and stand up should to shoulder to global challenges

Global environmental protection efforts should be carried out and strengthened in a spirit of common but differentiated responsibilities so as to promote sustainable development. At the same time, international

cooperation in social, economic, financial, resources and other fields should be enhanced on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and shared risks. And countries should join hands in fighting against arms smuggling, illicit drug trafficking, terrorism and other transnational crimes.

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General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 43 and 44
The situation in the Middle East
Question of Palestine

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 23 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on the Middle East peace process issued on 22 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

00-45051 (E) 250500 250500

Annex to the letter dated 23 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement on the Middle East peace process issued on 22 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union considers that a real opportunity exists to attain a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, based on the basic principles established within the framework of Madrid. The European Union remains ready to work with the parties to this end.

The European Union deplores the recent escalation of tension and violence that has taken place in the Occupied Territories. The European Union urges all parties concerned to exercise restraint and appeals to Israel and the Palestinian Authority to intensify their efforts with a view to urgently concluding the Framework Agreement foreseen in the Sharm-el-Sheikh Memorandum of September 1999 and the Permanent Status negotiations within the agreed time-frame and with the courage and spirit of compromise that they demand. The European Union welcomes the Israeli decision to transfer Abu Dis, Ayzariyah and Suwahirah to full Palestinian control.

The European Union appeals to the parties to refrain from unilateral acts that may prejudge the final negotiated agreements. In this context the European Union expresses particular concern about renewed Israeli settlement activity and road building, which is contrary to international law and which further complicates the search for solutions. A solution in full conformity with agreement signed regarding Palestinian prisoners detained by Israel should be found.

Reiterating the importance of the Syrian and Lebanese Tracks for a comprehensive solution in the region, the European Union urges the parties to stay engaged with a view to early resumption of negotiations.

Pending a comprehensive solution, the European Union welcomes Israel's decision to withdraw from southern Lebanon in full accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) and expresses the hope that this move will facilitate reconciliation and rehabilitation in the region. The European Union expresses full support for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General to ensure implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions. The European Union urges all sides to fully cooperate with the United Nations to this end. In this context, the European Union emphasizes that the safety of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and other international personnel on the ground must be respected by all sides at all times.

United Nations A/54/884

General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 167
Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Note by the Secretary General

1. By its resolution 54/65 of 6 December 1999, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to take the appropriate steps to conclude with the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization an agreement to regulate the relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission, to be submitted to the General Assembly for its approval.

2. Following the completion of the negotiations, the Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization was submitted to the Preparatory Commission for approval. By a letter dated 5 May 2000, the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission advised me that on that date the Preparatory Commission at its eleventh session, by decision CTBT/PC-11/CR.7, had approved the Agreement.

3. On 26 May 2000, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission signed the Agreement.

4. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/65, I herewith submit to the General Assembly for its approval the Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization which is annexed to the present note. Pursuant to article XVII of the Agreement, it shall enter into force upon its approval by the General Assembly and the Preparatory Commission. As the Preparatory Commission has already approved the Agreement, the latter will enter into force on the date the General Assembly approves it.

00-45298 (E) 300500

Annex

Agreement to Regulate the Relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

The United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations (hereinafter the "Charter") and of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (hereinafter the "Treaty"),

Bearing also in mind resolution CTBT/MSS/Res/1 of 19 November 1996 of the Meeting of States Signatories to the Treaty (hereinafter the "Resolution") establishing the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (hereinafter the "Commission"),

Recalling that in accordance with the Charter, the United Nations is the principal organization dealing with matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security and acts as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of goals set out in the Charter,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the Treaty which provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

Noting that, pursuant to the Resolution, the Commission was established for the purpose of carrying out the necessary preparations for the effective implementation of the Treaty,

Acknowledging that the activities of the Commission performed pursuant to the Treaty and the Resolution will contribute to the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Desiring to make provision for a mutually beneficial relationship whereby the discharge of their respective responsibilities may be facilitated,

Noting that General Assembly resolution 54/65 of 6 December 1999 and the decision of the Commission of 29 April 1999, contained in CTBT/PC-8/1/Annex IX, call for the conclusion of an agreement to regulate the relationship between the United Nations and the Commission,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I
General

1. The United Nations recognizes the Commission as an entity in working relationship with the United Nations as defined by this Agreement, which by virtue of the Resolution has standing as an international organization, authority to negotiate and enter into agreements, and such other legal capacity as necessary for the exercise of its functions and the fulfilment of its purposes.

2. The Commission recognizes the responsibilities of the United Nations under the Charter, in particular, in the fields of international peace and security and

economic and social, cultural and humanitarian development, protection and preservation of the environment and peaceful settlement of disputes.

3. The Commission undertakes to conduct its activities in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and with due regard to the policies of the United Nations furthering these purposes and principles.

Article II
Cooperation and coordination

1. The United Nations and the Commission, recognizing the need to work jointly to achieve their common objectives, and with a view to facilitating the effective exercise of their responsibilities, agree to cooperate closely and to consult and to maintain a close working relationship on matters of mutual interest and concern. To that end, the United Nations and the Commission shall cooperate with each other in accordance with the provisions of their respective constituent instruments.

2. In view of the responsibilities of the Commission under the Resolution, the United Nations and the Commission shall, in particular, cooperate in the implementation of the following provisions of the Treaty:

(a) Paragraph 13 of Article II of the Treaty related to the convening by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the Depositary of the Treaty of the initial session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty;

(b) Article XIV of the Treaty related to the convening by the Depositary, upon the request of a majority of States that have already deposited their instruments of ratification, of Conferences convened to consider and decide by consensus what measures consistent with international law may be undertaken to accelerate the ratification process in order to facilitate the early entry into force of the Treaty.

3. The Commission, within its competence and in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, shall cooperate with the United Nations by providing to it at its request such information and assistance as may be required in the exercise of its responsibilities under the Charter. In case confidential information is provided, the United Nations shall preserve the confidential character of that information.

4. The United Nations and the Commission recognize the necessity of achieving, where applicable, effective coordination of the activities and services of the United Nations and the Commission with a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of such activities and services, particularly with respect to common services at the Vienna International Centre.

5. The Secretariat of the United Nations and the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Commission shall maintain a close working relationship on issues of mutual concern in accordance with such arrangements as may be agreed from time to time.

6. The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of the Commission shall consult from time to time regarding their respective responsibilities and, in particular, regarding such administrative arrangements as may be necessary to enable the United Nations and the Commission effectively to carry out their functions and to ensure effective cooperation and liaison between the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Commission.

Article III
Reciprocal representation

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or his representative, shall be entitled to attend and participate without vote in sessions of the Commission and, subject to the rules of procedure and practice of the bodies concerned, in meetings of such other bodies as may be convened by the Commission, whenever matters of interest to the United Nations are under consideration.

2. The Executive Secretary of the Commission shall be entitled to attend plenary meetings of the General Assembly for the purposes of consultation. The Executive Secretary of the Commission shall be entitled to attend and participate without vote in meetings of the Committees of the General Assembly, and, subject to the rules of procedure and practice of the bodies concerned, in meetings of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and the Committees concerning matters of interest to the Commission. Whenever other principal organs of the United Nations consider matters which are of relevance to the activities of the Commission, at the invitation of that organ, the Executive Secretary may attend its meetings to supply it with information or give it other assistance with regard to matters within the competence of the Commission. The Executive Secretary may, for the purposes of this paragraph, designate any person as his representative.

3. Written statements presented by the United Nations to the Commission for distribution shall be distributed by the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Commission to all members of the appropriate organ or organs of the Commission. Written statements presented by the Commission to the United Nations for distribution shall be distributed by the Secretariat of the United Nations to all members of the appropriate organ or organs of the United Nations.

Article IV
Reporting

1. The Commission, within its competence and in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, shall keep the United Nations informed of its activities, and may submit through the Secretary-General of the United Nations reports on them on a regular or ad hoc basis to the principal organs of the United Nations concerned.

2. Should the Secretary-General of the United Nations report to the United Nations on the common activities of the United Nations and the Commission or on the development of relations between them, any such report shall be promptly transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Commission.

3. Should the Executive Secretary of the Commission report to the Commission on the common activities of the Commission and the United Nations or on the development of relations between them, any such report shall be promptly transmitted by the Executive Secretary of the Commission to the United Nations.

Article V
Resolutions of the United Nations

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit to the Executive Secretary of the Commission resolutions adopted by the principal organs of the United Nations pertaining to issues relevant to the Treaty and the Resolution. Upon receipt thereof, the Executive Secretary of the Commission shall bring the

resolutions concerned to the attention of the Commission, and report back to the United Nations on any action taken by the Commission, as appropriate.

Article VI
Agenda items

1. The United Nations may propose agenda items for consideration by the Commission. In such cases, the United Nations shall notify the Executive Secretary of the Commission of the agenda item or items concerned, and the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in accordance with his authority and the relevant rules of procedure, shall bring any such agenda item or items to the attention of the Commission.

2. The Commission may propose agenda items for consideration by the United Nations. In such cases, the Commission shall notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the agenda item or items concerned, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, in accordance with his authority and the relevant rules of procedure, bring any such item or items to the attention of the principal organs of the United Nations concerned.

Article VII
Exchange of information and documents

1. The United Nations and the Commission shall arrange for the exchange of information, publications and documents of mutual interest.

2. In fulfilment of the responsibilities entrusted to him under Article XVI of the Treaty and in the light of the responsibilities of the Commission under paragraph 18 of the Resolution, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit to the Commission copies of communications received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the capacity of Depositary of the Treaty.

3. The Commission, to the extent practicable, shall furnish special studies or information requested by the United Nations. The submission of such studies and information shall be subject to conditions set forth in Article XII of the present Agreement.

4. The United Nations, to the extent practicable, shall likewise furnish the Commission, upon its request, with special studies or information relating to matters within the competence of the Commission. The submission of such studies and information shall be subject to conditions set forth in Article XII of the present Agreement.

5. The United Nations and the Commission shall make every effort to achieve maximum cooperation with a view to avoiding undesirable duplication in the collection, analysis, publication and dissemination of information related to matters of mutual interest. They will strive to combine, where appropriate, their efforts to secure the greatest possible usefulness and utilization of such information and to minimize the burdens placed on Governments and other international organizations from which such information may be collected.

Article VIII
International Court of Justice

The Commission agrees, subject to such arrangements as it may make for the safeguarding of confidential information, to furnish any information which may be requested by the International Court of Justice in accordance with the Statute of that Court.

Article IX
United Nations Laissez-Passer

The United Nations recognizes that due to the special nature and universality of the work of the Commission, as defined in the Resolution, officials of the Commission shall be entitled, in accordance with such special arrangements as may be concluded between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of the Commission, to use the Laissez-Passer of the United Nations as a valid travel document where such use is recognized by States in the instruments or arrangements defining the privileges and immunities of the Commission.

Article X
Personnel arrangements

1. The United Nations and the Commission agree to consult whenever necessary concerning matters of common interest relating to the terms and conditions of employment of staff.

2. The United Nations and the Commission agree to cooperate regarding the exchange of personnel, bearing in mind the nationality of States Signatories of the Treaty, and to determine conditions of such cooperation in supplementary arrangements to be concluded for that purpose in accordance with Article XV of the Agreement.

Article XI
Budgetary and financial matters

1. The Commission recognizes the desirability of establishing budgetary and financial cooperation with the United Nations in order that the Commission may benefit from the experience of the United Nations in this field and in order to ensure, as far as may be practicable, the consistency of the administrative operation of the two organizations in the field.

2. Subject to the provision of Article XII of this Agreement, the United Nations may arrange for studies to be undertaken concerning budgetary and financial matters of interest to the Commission with a view to, as far as may be practicable, achieving coordination and securing of consistency in such matters.

3. The Commission agrees to follow, as far as may be practicable and appropriate, the standard budgetary and financial practices and forms used by the United Nations.

Article XII
Costs and expenses

The costs and expenses resulting from any cooperation or the provision of services pursuant to this Agreement shall be subject to separate arrangements between the United Nations and the Commission.

Article XIII
Protection of confidentiality

Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article II, nothing in this Agreement shall be so construed as to require either the United Nations or the Commission to furnish any material, data and information the furnishing of which could, in its judgement, require it to violate its policy regarding the confidentiality of such information.

Article XIV
Registration

Either the United Nations or the Commission may register this Agreement with the United Nations.

Article XV
Implementation of the Agreement

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary of the Commission may enter into such supplementary arrangements for the implementation of this Agreement as may be found desirable.

Article XVI
Amendments

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent between the United Nations and the Commission. Any amendment, once agreed upon, shall enter into force on its approval by the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Commission.

Article XVII
Entry into force

This Agreement shall enter into force on its approval by the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Commission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized representatives of the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, have signed the present Agreement.

SIGNED this 26th day of May in the year two thousand at New York in two originals in the English language.

For the United Nations:

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**
Secretary-General

For the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization:

(*Signed*) Wolfgang **Hoffmann**
Executive Secretary

United Nations A/54/885

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 31
Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

Letter dated 24 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General*

I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué issued today by the office of the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concerning the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have it issued as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 31.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Baali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Also circulated under the symbol S/2000/477.

00-45272 (E) 260500 260500

Annex to the letter dated 24 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué from the office of the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concerning the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea

Algiers, 24 May 2000

On Wednesday, the office of the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) issued the following communiqué concerning the mission of Mr. Ahmed Ouyahia, Special Envoy of the current Chairman of OAU, carried out from 21 to 24 May in Addis Ababa and Asmara:

On the initiative of Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and current Chairman of OAU, a delegation of the pan-African organization led by Mr. Ahmed Ouyahia, Special Envoy of the current Chairman, visited Addis Ababa and Asmara from 21 to 24 May 2000.

This mission forms part of the intensive efforts which are being made by the current Chairman, particularly since the adjournment of the proximity talks at Algiers and the resumption of armed confrontations between Ethiopia and Eritrea; these efforts are aimed at bringing about an immediate end to the fighting and the rapid return of the two parties to the negotiating table with a view to finalizing the consolidated technical arrangements and, hence, implementing the Framework Agreement and the Modalities for the peaceful and final settlement of the territorial dispute between the two parties.

At Addis Ababa, the OAU delegation was received by Mr. Meles Zenaoui, Prime Minister of Ethiopia. At Asmara, since the Head of State was absent from the capital, the delegation met a delegation of senior Eritrean officials headed by Mr. Haile Woldensde, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and also including the principal private secretary and advisers of the President of Eritrea. Moreover, throughout the mission, the Special Envoy maintained close coordination with Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of OAU.

With each of the two parties, the Special Envoy emphatically reiterated the appeal of the current Chairman for an immediate end to the fighting and a rapid resumption of the proximity talks.

The Special Envoy stressed that this appeal is supported by the entire international community, including the United Nations Security Council.

Eritrea declared its readiness to respond immediately and favourably to the two points contained in the appeal of the current Chairman of OAU, namely an immediate halt to the fighting and the resumption of the proximity talks.

Ethiopia, for its part, declares that it is willing to resume the proximity talks immediately, but considers that the fighting cannot be halted before the territorial status quo as of 6 May 1998 is restored.

At the same time, and beyond this fundamental disagreement, the delegation noted that:

1. Ethiopia solemnly declares that it has no territorial designs over Eritrea;

2. Each of the two parties declares its continued support for the Framework Agreement and the Modalities which they accepted, and which were unanimously endorsed by the OAU summit meeting held at Algiers in July 1999;

3. Each of the two parties proclaims its commitment to redeploy its troops on the line of 6 May 1998, in accordance with the modalities they have mutually accepted;

4. Lastly, each of the two parties undertakes to resolve the territorial dispute with the other party on the basis of the relevant colonial treaties and applicable international law, through delimitation and demarcation, with the assistance of the United Nations Cartographic Unit and, if necessary, through recourse to arbitration.

In the face of this situation, OAU deeply regrets that its call for an immediate end to the fighting has not

yet found the fully favourable response that is necessary, although the elements required for a peaceful, just and final settlement of this conflict, and in particular the underlying border dispute, have already been defined by the pan-African organization, accepted by the two parties, and endorsed by the entire international community.

At the same time, OAU expresses its deep concern about the thousands of deaths already caused by the resumption of armed clashes on 12 May, which constitute an appalling toll, along with the suffering and displacement of hundreds of thousands of innocent civilian victims of this fratricidal conflict. Moreover, the continuation of this armed conflict is likely to undermine the stability and security of the entire subregion.

It is for this reason that OAU once again renews its urgent appeal for an immediate end to the fighting and the resumption of peace negotiations.

Moreover, and with a view to initiating the de-escalation of the conflict and bringing it to an end:

(a) First, OAU calls upon Ethiopia and Eritrea to proceed immediately to redeploy their respective forces to the points which they controlled on 6 May 1998, in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Modalities and without prejudice to the final status of the territories concerned, which will be determined at the conclusion of the delimitation and demarcation process.

(b) Second, and to this end, OAU calls upon Eritrea to announce immediately its decision to undertake this redeployment in accordance with paragraph 1 of the Modalities and to put it into effect without delay.

(c) Third, and in the same spirit, OAU calls upon Ethiopia to announce, immediately after Eritrea, its decision to redeploy its forces in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Modalities, on the understanding that this redeployment must include all the points taken since 6 February 1999 which were not under Ethiopian control before 6 May 1998.

(d) Fourth, OAU takes note of the statement of Ethiopia that it has no designs on the territory of Eritrea and calls upon Ethiopia to reaffirm this publicly and officially.

(e) Fifth, OAU takes note of the commitment of Ethiopia and Eritrea to implement the Framework Agreement and the Modalities which they have jointly accepted and, in particular, to resolve their border dispute in accordance with the above-mentioned documents.

(f) Sixth, OAU takes note of the willingness of the two parties to finalize rapidly the consolidated technical arrangements, and then to sign the Framework Agreement, the Modalities and the consolidated technical arrangements, to establish a formal cessation of hostilities and to implement faithfully all the three documents constituting the plan for the peaceful and final settlement of the dispute between them.

(g) Seventh, on behalf of the current Chairman of OAU, the Special Envoy requests the two parties to send their delegations to Algiers to resume the proximity talks immediately after the publication of the declarations of each of the two parties as announced in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

OAU hopes that this appeal will be heeded by each of the two parties and that wisdom will prevail in the interests of the two fraternal and neighbouring peoples. It also hopes that the international community will support this step aimed at silencing the guns in this violent conflict and opening the way to the full application of the peace plan which was drawn up by OAU and accepted by the two parties and enjoys the support of the entire international community.

United Nations A/54/886–S/2000/495

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
26 May 2000
English
Original: French

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 31
Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Identical letters dated 26 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué issued today by the office of the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concerning the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

I should be grateful if you would have it issued as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Baali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-45260 (E) 260500 260500

Annex to the identical letters dated 26 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué from the office of the current Chairman of OAU concerning the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea

On 24 May 2000, President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, current Chairman of OAU, visited the region of the Horn of Africa in the context of the efforts which are being made by OAU for a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

This direct involvement of the current Chairman demonstrates the concern of the whole of Africa about the resumption of fighting between the two parties and especially the heavy casualties as well as the sufferings inflicted on hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians.

President Abdelaziz Bouteflika visited Addis Ababa and Asmara between 24 and 26 May 2000. During his stay, he had talks with Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and Mr. Isaias Afwerki, President of the State of Eritrea.

These talks with the leaders of both parties enabled the current Chairman to take note of the commitment of Ethiopia and Eritrea:

1. To redeploy their respective forces to the positions held prior to 6 May 1998 in the case of Eritrea and prior to 6 February 1999 in the case of Ethiopia, in conformity with the Modalities, and without prejudice to the final status of the territories concerned, which will be determined at the end of the delimitation-demarcation process.

2. To resolve their border dispute in conformity with the Framework Agreement and the Modalities, on the basis of the relevant colonial treaties and applicable international law, through delimitation and demarcation, with the assistance of the United Nations Cartographic Unit and, if necessary, through arbitration.

3. To pursue negotiations under the auspices of OAU with a view to finalizing the Consolidated Technical Arrangements and thus achieving the implementation of the peace plan constituted by the Framework Agreement, the Modalities and the Consolidated Technical Arrangements.

4. The current Chairman called on the two parties to resume the proximity talks in Algiers on 29 May 2000. Eritrea promptly agreed to that.

The current Chairman of OAU welcomed the points of agreement between the two parties.

The current Chairman also welcomed the decision taken by Eritrea to withdraw from the Zalambesa zone as of 25 May 2000 at 0000 hours as well as the commitment given to him by President Isaias Afwerki that the Eritrean forces will withdraw from Bada and Burrie. This last point has been formalized by a written commitment duly signed by President Isaias Afwerki.

The current Chairman considers that these initiatives taken by Eritrea within the framework of the Modalities will lead to a rapid cessation of fighting between the two parties.

Lastly, he considers that the resumption of the proximity talks in Algiers, as accepted in principle by the two parties, should effectively establish an end to the fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea, and should be an opportunity to finalize the peace plan and thus proceed to its implementation through a peaceful, just and lasting solution of the conflict between the two brotherly and neighbouring countries.

At the same time, Mr. Ahmed Ouyahia, Special Envoy of the current Chairman, has been sent immediately to Addis Ababa to inform Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of the Eritrean party's acceptance of the Ethiopian demand in respect of:

- The sovereign decision of Eritrea to withdraw from Bada and Burrie, without prejudice to the rights of each of the parties which emerge from the settlement of the border dispute in conformity with the Framework Agreement and the Modalities.
- Mr. Ouyahia will also confirm to Prime Minister Meles Zenawi Eritrea's agreement to go to Algiers on 29 May 2000 to resume the proximity talks.

United Nations A/54/887–S/2000/501

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
30 May 2000
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Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 160
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 25 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Republic of the Sudan has deposited with the relevant depositary States and organizations instruments of accession to the following international agreements for the elimination of terrorism:

1. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation (Montreal, 1988). An instrument of accession was deposited with the Government of the United States of America on 15 May 2000.

2. Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (Vienna, 1980). An instrument of accession was deposited with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna on 18 May 2000.

3. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (Rome, 1988). An instrument of accession was deposited with the International Maritime Organization in London on 22 May 2000.

4. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (Rome, 1992). An instrument of accession was deposited with the International Maritime Organization in London on 22 May 2000.

5. Convention on Offenses and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (Tokyo, 1963). An instrument of accession was deposited with the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal on 25 May 2000.

6. Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (Montreal, 1991). An instrument of accession was deposited with the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal on 25 May 2000.

00-45468 (E) 310500 310500

By taking this step the Government of the Sudan has now acceded to all of the international agreements for the suppression of terrorism, and it has signed all of those that still remain open for signature.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to reaffirm the resolve of the Government of the Sudan to promote international efforts for the elimination of international terrorism. As you know, accession to the international conventions for the elimination of international terrorism is a fundamental and indispensable step for the promotion of such efforts and the achievement of the desired goals, as has been affirmed in the successive resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in this regard.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Elfatih Mohamed Ahmed **Erwa**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/54/888

General Assembly

Distr.: General
25 May 2000
English
Original: French

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Letter dated 25 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the human rights and humanitarian situation in Colombia, issued on 23 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 116 (b).

(*Signed*) Antonio **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

00-45503 (E) 020600 020600

Annex to the letter dated 25 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the human rights and humanitarian situation in Colombia, issued on 23 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union expresses its deep concern at the deteriorating human rights and humanitarian situation in Colombia, in particular the increasing number of inhuman acts of violence and atrocities affecting primarily the civilian population, such as those which occurred recently in Gigante and Chiquinquirá.

The European Union strongly condemns the persistent grave violations and human rights abuses as well as acts of terrorism and breaches of international humanitarian law committed by all armed groups and emphasizes the need to bring those responsible for human rights violations to justice.

While supporting the current peace process in Colombia, the European Union urges all armed groups to end all acts of violence, to respect human rights, to comply with international humanitarian law and to engage in serious and constructive peace talks with the Government, with a view to achieving a sustainable peace in Colombia.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and Iceland and Liechtenstein, European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

United Nations A/54/889–S/2000/506

General Assembly
Security Council

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30 May 2000
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General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 77 (a)
Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 30 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that in the context of the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting was held in N'Djamena from 2 to 6 May 2000.

On behalf of the current Chairman of the Committee, I am transmitting to you herewith the report adopted at the end of this meeting, as well as the N'Djamena Declaration (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 77 (a), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ahmat A. **Haggar**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations

00-45485 (E) 120600 160600

Annex to the letter dated 30 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Report of the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

N'Djamena, 2-6 May 2000

Introduction

The thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa was held in N'Djamena from 2 to 6 May 2000.

The following States members took part in the meeting: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe. Rwanda was absent.

Representatives of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) also participated in the work. The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) was represented by His Excellency Mr. Nelson Cosme, Deputy Secretary-General for Human Integration, Peace, Stability and Security.

The opening ceremony featured:

- A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, read out by his representative, Mr. Hamidou Diawara, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) resident coordinator in N'Djamena;
- A message from the Secretary-General of OAU, read out by his representative Mr. Léonard Emile Ognimba, senior official of OAU;
- An address by His Excellency Mr. Nelson Cosme, Deputy Secretary-General for Human Integration, Peace, Stability and Security of ECCAS;
- An address by His Excellency Mr. Nagoum Yamassoum, Prime Minister of the Republic of Chad.

Adoption of the agenda

The Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Interim report of the Bureau

3. Evaluation of the implementation of previous decisions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee:

   A. Establishment of an early warning mechanism;

   B. Organization of military exercises in connection with peacekeeping operations between the armed forces of the countries of Central Africa;

   C. Establishment of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

   D. Establishment of a subregional centre for human rights and democracy;

   E. Establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX).

4. Consideration of the implementation of the recommendations of the Subregional Conference on the Proliferation of and Illicit Traffic in Small Arms in Central Africa

5. Review of the geopolitical and security situation in Central Africa

6. Intergovernmental cooperation in security matters among the countries of Central Africa

7. Freedom of movement for certain categories of nationals of member States within ECCAS

8. Preparation for the subregional conference on refugees in Central Africa

9. Date and place of the next meeting

10. Other matters

11. Adoption of the report of the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee

Conduct of work

I. Interim report of the Bureau

The Committee took note of the interim report presented by His Excellency Mr. Mahamat Saleh Annadif, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chad, in his capacity as Chairman of the Bureau at the ministerial level.

The Committee welcomed the efforts made by the Bureau to date to discharge the mandates entrusted to it by the twelfth Ministerial Meeting, particularly:

- The submission to the United Nations General Assembly of the draft resolution on the work of the Advisory Committee which was adopted at the twelfth Ministerial Meeting;
- The assistance provided by the Committee to ECCAS in organizing a meeting of experts at Malabo in order to draw up a draft protocol on the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX);

- The assistance provided for the organization of the third special summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Central African countries in Malabo, which served as a framework for the adoption and signature of the Protocol on COPAX and the Mutual Assistance Pact;
- The initiatives undertaken to promote the restoration of peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the consolidation of peace in the Central African Republic;
- The steps taken within the context of preparations for the subregional conference on refugees;
- The approaches made to Canada for the implementation of the initiative entitled "Disarmament for development and peace" in respect of controlling the proliferation of small arms and light weapons;
- Awareness-raising among the countries of the subregion with regard to the need for ratification of the Non-Aggression Pact, the Protocol on COPAX and the Mutual Assistance Pact;
- The organization of the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting;
- The steps taken for the effective launching of the early warning mechanism and the establishment of the subregional centre for human rights and democracy.

II. Evaluation of the implementation of the previous decisions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee

A. Establishment of an early warning mechanism

The Committee welcomed the contacts which are under way between the ECCAS secretariat and the Government of Gabon in relation to the refurbishing of the building which is to house the headquarters of the early warning mechanism.

The Committee took note with interest of the approaches made by the Government of Gabon to the United States of America with regard to the financing of the mechanism, and the goodwill expressed by that country in that respect.

A mandate was given to the Bureau to take the necessary steps, in conjunction with the Committee secretariat, for holding a high-level seminar on the organization and operation of an early warning mechanism.

B. Organization of military exercises in connection with peacekeeping operations between the armed forces of the countries of Central Africa

After welcoming the success of the Gabon 2000 exercise, the Committee reiterated its interest in organizing a joint military exercise, even on a limited scale, by mobilizing the resources of the Central African countries themselves.

In this respect, the Committee recommended that a meeting of the chiefs of staff of the Central African countries should be convened before the fourteenth

Ministerial Meeting in order to review the Biyongho-98 exercise, revise its costs downwards and determine the division of contributions among the different countries.

Gabon, the country which is to accommodate the exercise, was approached about hosting the meeting.

A mandate was given to the Bureau to take all the necessary steps for the organization of this meeting.

C. Establishment of a subregional parliament in Central Africa

The Committee took note with satisfaction of the progress of the project to establish a subregional parliament in Central Africa and in particular the preparation of a draft protocol for the organization of that institution which is under way in the ECCAS secretariat.

It welcomed the approaches made by the ECCAS secretariat to the various national parliaments and certain inter-African institutions with a view to establishing a subregional parliament in Central Africa.

The Committee called upon ECCAS to make the necessary arrangements to convene, before the fourteenth Ministerial Meeting, a meeting of subregional experts and parliamentarians to study the modalities for setting up the network of parliamentarians established by the Heads of State of the subregion in Malabo in June 1999 and securing the financing necessary for its operation.

D. Establishment of a subregional centre for human rights and democracy

The Committee took note with satisfaction of the appropriation by the United Nations General Assembly, under its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, of an amount of one million dollars for the establishment of the subregional centre for human rights and democracy. In that respect, it expressed its gratitude to the United Nations.

It welcomed the forthcoming visit to Cameroon of a mission of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in order to define the modalities of the establishment of the subregional centre for human rights and democracy.

It welcomed with satisfaction the information provided on the forthcoming visit to Central Africa of Ms. Mary Robinson, High Commissioner for Human Rights, and her commitment to give full support to the projects relating to the promotion and protection of human rights in the subregion.

E. Implementation of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX)

The Committee welcomed the signature by the African Heads of State and Government, at their meeting in Malabo on 24 February 2000, of the protocol concerning COPAX and the Mutual Assistance Pact. It also welcomed the

ratification by Cameroon of those two major legal instruments and the fact that other member States had also begun ratification procedures.

It expressed the hope that those procedures would be completed rapidly, so that COPAX might begin functioning as soon as possible.

The Bureau was mandated to convene, in conjunction with the Committee secretariat, an expert meeting of member States in order to consider proposed legislative mandates for the early warning mechanism, the Central African multinational force and the defence commission for the Central African countries. It was decided that the meeting would be held in Yaoundé in the second half of June 2000, before the next summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Central African countries.

III. Implementation of the recommendations of the Subregional Conference on the Proliferation of and Illicit Traffic in Small Arms in Central Africa

After reviewing the recommendations formulated by the Subregional Conference on the Proliferation of and Illicit Traffic in Small Arms in Central Africa, held in N'Djamena from 25 to 27 October 1999, the Committee welcomed the remarkable efforts of the countries of the subregion to implement the recommendations.

In particular, it noted with satisfaction:

- The elaboration by several member States of the Committee of national good-governance plans;
- The creation in some of those States of national structures to coordinate the campaign against the proliferation of small arms and of committees to follow up the Committee' s recommendations;
- The strict regulation of the activities of private security firms, and particularly the fact that such firms were prohibited from possessing arms;
- The launching of programmes to promote awareness of the dangers of firearms in certain countries, particularly by means of radio broadcasts;
- The implementation of programmes to collect and destroy arms;
- The inclusion in peace or ceasefire agreements of clauses on arms collection;
- The strengthening of border controls, particularly by setting up new frontier posts;
- The implementation of training programmes for border guards.

The Committee recommended that member countries should intensify measures to implement the recommendations of the Conference and, more generally, should spare no effort in the campaign against the proliferation of and illicit traffic in small arms, taking into account the dangers of this scourge for peace, security, stability and development in the subregion.

The Committee recommended that the Bureau, in conjunction with the Committee secretariat, should hold consultations with member countries on the

implementation of the measures called for by the Conference at the subregional level, particularly:

- Harmonization of national legislation in the Central African countries to combat the proliferation of and illicit traffic in small arms;
- Establishment of a standard arms registration system at the national and subregional levels and of a database of arms stocks for each country, of arms dealers and transport agents;
- Consideration of regional arms collection projects, accompanied by small-scale development projects to promote the economic and social reintegration of offenders, in collaboration with donors and international bodies.

IV. Review of the geopolitical and security situation in Central Africa

Angola

The Committee expressed concern at the continuing situation in Angola as a result of the refusal of Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), to comply with the terms of the 1994 Lusaka Protocol and of the relevant Security Council resolutions. It welcomed the efforts of the Government of Angola to end the war and restore peace in Angola.

It appealed for strict application of the sanctions imposed by the Security Council against UNITA and urged all the States of the subregion to consider the Fowler report on sanctions against UNITA and the recommendations contained therein as a good basis for ending violations of the United Nations sanctions regime.

The Committee welcomed the decision by Mr. Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola, to reintegrate civilian population groups, military forces and other UNITA officials who abandoned Mr. Savimbi.

It welcomed the announcement by President dos Santos that general elections would be held in 2001, and called upon all political parties to take part therein.

Burundi

The Committee warmly welcomed the designation of President Nelson Mandela to mediate in the issue of Burundi; this responded to concern expressed by the Committee at its previous meeting.

It also welcomed the positive developments since the appointment of the new mediator, particularly the holding of talks involving all the political forces in the country.

The Committee expressed its serious concern at the persistence of massacres which continued to afflict innocent civilians in Burundi. It urgently appealed to the armed rebellion to agree to participate effectively in the current talks under the mediation of President Mandela.

It called for the prompt proclamation of a ceasefire in order to put an end to the massacres of innocent civilians, and urged all parties to the Lusaka Agreement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo to implement its provisions, particularly those on the disarming of Burundian armed groups.

In order to consolidate the ongoing peace process, the Committee appealed to the international community to rapidly resume bilateral and multilateral cooperation with Burundi, in order to relieve the hardship which the Burundian people had been enduring for more than seven years.

Cameroon

The Committee welcomed the growing climate of peace and stability in Cameroon.

It noted with satisfaction the implementation of the national plan for good governance in Cameroon, and the remarkable efforts made by the country' s authorities in the campaign against corruption.

The Committee expressed deep concern at the information provided by the delegation of Cameroon on the persistent attempts at infiltration and repeated acts of provocation by Nigerian forces on the Bakassi peninsula, and called on the two parties to refrain from any action that could heighten tensions while awaiting the decision of the International Court of Justice, which Cameroon had seized of the matter.

The Committee, while reiterating its appeal to the international community and friendly countries to assist in maintaining the peace between Cameroon and Nigeria while awaiting the verdict of the International Court of Justice, requested the Court to take the necessary steps to ensure a rapid conclusion of the proceeding pending before it.

The Committee again urged Nigeria to comply strictly with the interim measures of protection laid down by the Court in its ruling of 15 March 1996, and called upon the two parties to refrain from taking any action that could create difficulties for the application of the final judgement of the Court.

The Committee expressed concern at the ongoing cross-border phenomenon of roadblocks, the illegal circulation of small-calibre weapons and weapons of war and the increase in organized crime.

It welcomed the determination of the Government of Cameroon to combat insecurity, the commendable efforts it had made in that regard and the notable success already achieved.

Congo

The Committee was informed about the positive developments in the situation in the Congo. It welcomed the return of peace and security throughout the territory, due in particular to the effective implementation of the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities agreements concluded on 16 November 1999 at Pointe-Noire and on 29 December 1999 at Brazzaville between the Forces Armeés Congolaises and the

armed factions through the mediation of the President of the Gabonese Republic, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo.

It urged the committee formed to monitor those agreements to continue its efforts, in particular with regard to the demobilization of former members of the militia and the collection of weapons, in order to establish conditions favourable to a national dialogue intended to define the modalities for reconstruction of the Congo, consolidation of national unity and renewal of the democratic process.

The Committee appealed to the international community for urgent and significant assistance to the Congo in taking the necessary action to consolidate the peace.

Gabon

The Committee was pleased at the positive developments in the situation in Gabon, characterized by the free exercise of activities by political parties, normal functioning of institutions and a general climate of peace and political stability.

It welcomed the valuable assistance provided to Gabon by certain friendly countries and by OAU in implementing a programme of assistance to ease the suffering of refugees located in Gabon.

It expressed concern at the time it was taking the agencies concerned to get the assistance to the refugees. It requested the High Commissioner for Refugees and the countries concerned to make every effort to ensure the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of the refugees in their countries of origin.

Finally, the Committee took note with interest of the summit on growth and poverty reduction which had taken place in Libreville in January 2000.

Equatorial Guinea

The Committee welcomed the progress in the democratization process in Equatorial Guinea and the forthcoming municipal elections, in which all the political parties had announced their participation.

The Committee commended the Government for its efforts to promote a culture of democracy in the country and welcomed the financial assistance recently granted to political parties.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Committee welcomed the efforts made by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, current Chairman of OAU, to implement the Lusaka Agreement and the Summit held on 30 April 2000 at Algiers to facilitate that goal.

The Committee welcomed the decisions taken during the meeting of the Political Committee held at Kampala from 6 to 8 April 2000, in particular the adoption by all the parties to the conflict of a plan for the disengagement and redeployment of troops, in accordance with the Lusaka Agreement, and their decision to order a total cessation of hostilities beginning on 14 April 2000.

The Committee strongly urged all the parties to respect scrupulously their commitments in that regard so as to consolidate the ceasefire.

The Committee made an urgent appeal to the United Nations Security Council to move as quickly as possible to phase 2 of the deployment of the United Nations Observer Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Committee expressed its grave concern at the continuing illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by the occupation forces and appealed for an immediate halt to these practices.

It welcomed the proposal of the United Nations Secretary-General to establish a group of independent experts to investigate the illegal exploitation of the resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It strongly reaffirmed the obligation of all the parties to respect the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It stressed the need for all the parties to provide assurances and guarantees of security for the countries of the Great Lakes region.

Central African Republic

The Committee welcomed the gradual restoration of peace in the Central African Republic and the commendable efforts made by the Government, with the assistance of the United Nations Peace-Building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) to consolidate the peace.

It also commended the President, Mr. Ange Félix Patassé, for his commitment to national reconciliation and reconstruction of the country, and welcomed the easing of tensions and the renewed confidence between the various political forces, which was illustrated in particular by the return of the opposition deputies to the National Assembly since March 2000.

The Committee expressed its concern at the upsurge in acts of banditry carried out in the hinterland by means of roadblocks. It noted with satisfaction the measures taken by the Central African Government to combat insecurity, *inter alia*, the establishment on 24 April 2000 of a Secretariat of State for Disarmament and the forthcoming restructuring of the armed forces and security forces.

The Committee also welcomed the meeting of donors soon to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York to secure the means to support the consolidation of peace in the Central African Republic.

Sao Tome and Principe

The Committee expressed its concern at the deterioration of the socio-economic situation in Sao Tome and Principe due to the implementation of the measures provided for in the structural adjustment programme concluded with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

It commended the efforts of the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to maintain a climate of peace and stability in the country and welcomed the cordial

tone of the negotiations with neighbouring countries on the delimitation of maritime borders.

Chad

The Committee welcomed the efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Chad to establish a consensual and participatory democracy. It welcomed with satisfaction the promulgation by the Government of Chad, under its policy of good governance and management, of an act prohibiting financial embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds.

The Committee commended the efforts made to reinforce the process of national reconciliation and noted with satisfaction the continuing policy of dialogue initiated by President Idriss Déby.

It appealed to all parties in Chad to respond positively to this desire for dialogue and to choose conciliation over confrontation in order to preserve the higher interests of the Chadian people.

The Committee took note with satisfaction of the success the Chadian security forces had had in combating insecurity, in particular in preventing roadblocks.

The Committee received a progress report on the Chad-Cameroon pipeline project and welcomed the progress made.

V. Intergovernmental cooperation in security matters in Central Africa

The Committee took note with satisfaction of the actions and initiatives taken by the States members within the framework of cooperation in security matters aimed, in particular, at lessening tensions and combating insecurity in the border areas, as well as making it possible to have exchanges between the various national structures dealing with these questions.

In view of the cross-border nature of most of the security problems in the subregion and the need to respond to them in a joint and concerted manner, the Committee again strongly recommended greater cooperation and dialogue among the security forces of the Central African countries, particularly within the framework of periodic meetings and the organization of joint operations.

The Committee particularly welcomed:

- The contacts at the summit among the Heads of State of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of Angola, which had resulted in the signature at Luanda in December 1999 of a framework agreement among those three countries for the creation of a tripartite joint security commission;
- The cooperation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of the Congo, which has led to the repatriation to the latter of refugees who had fled to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

- The contacts and exchanges between Gabon and the Congo regarding security issues; and
- The collaboration between Equatorial Guinea and the Congo which had resulted in the return to the Congo by the authorities of Equatorial Guinea of a boat that had been hijacked as well as of the hijackers.

The Committee expressed its concern with regard to the upsurge in organized crime and insecurity in the countries of the subregion, particularly the development of the phenomenon of roadblocks. It recommended the intensification of information exchange and the organization of joint operations to combat this scourge. It recommended that a high-level meeting should be held on the question, aimed at setting up a suitable legal framework for cooperation in the matter.

It stressed the need for closer cooperation among the security services of various countries with a view to combating the trans-border trade in stolen vehicles.

The Committee also recommended the creation of a fund to combat crime. The Bureau was mandated to study and propose ways and means of allocating sufficient resources to the fund.

Recalling the importance to the subregion' s peace and security of the Mutual Assistance Pact concluded on 24 February 2000 among the countries of Central Africa, the Committee invited the countries that had signed the Pact to ratify it. It recommended that the Bureau should draw the attention of those countries that had not already ratified the Pact of the need to do so so that it could enter into force before the end of the year 2000.

Aware of the need to strengthen cooperation for peace and security in the subregion, the Committee welcomed the signing of the agreement on criminal police cooperation in April 1999 at the meeting of the Committee of Central African Police Chiefs in Yaoundé. It appealed to those countries which had not yet done so to take all necessary steps to proceed to the rapid signing of this text and guarantee its full effectiveness.

VI. Free movement of certain categories of citizens of States members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

While stressing the importance and topical character of this question and after having taken note of the presentation made on the issue by the Under-Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States, the Committee determined that it should be examined in a more appropriate framework, in this case by the competent authorities of ECCAS.

VII. Preparation of the subregional conference on the question of refugees in Central Africa

Turning to the question of the subregional conference on the question of refugees in Central Africa, the Committee stressed the importance of this meeting,

in view of the seriousness of the refugee problem in Central Africa and the threats it posed to the economic, social and security situation in the subregion.

The Committee recommended that the Conference should examine such questions as:

- The causes of refugee flows in Central Africa;
- The living conditions of refugees in the host country;
- Assistance to refugees;
- The rights and obligations of refugees;
- The problem of the repatriation and reintegration of refugees, of their transfer to another host country or of their absorption;
- Relations between host countries and countries of origin;
- Assistance to host countries; and
- The question of displaced persons.

The Committee welcomed the measures already taken by the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs in preparation for this conference.

The Bureau was mandated to make, in cooperation with the Committee secretariat, all approaches to the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees necessary to collect the information and data needed to prepare adequately for that conference, which would be held prior to the fourteenth Ministerial Meeting.

VIII. Date and place of the next meeting

The Committee decided to hold its fourteenth Ministerial Meeting during the second week of August 2000 at Bujumbura in Burundi.

IX. Other matters

The Committee stressed the need for the Bureau to meet at least once prior to each Ministerial Meeting.

The Committee urged member States to make regular contributions to the trust fund intended to finance its activities.

The Committee requested the Bureau to closely follow the ongoing conflict situations in Central Africa, to increase its involvement in peace and security initiatives in the subregion and to report to the Committee on the topic at each meeting.

The Committee welcomed the visit of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to several countries of the subregion on the occasion of the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, and adopted a Declaration on that topic at the close of its work.

Done at N'Djamena on 6 May 2000

Appendix I

Declaration

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security of the member States of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, meeting at N'Djamena on 5 and 6 May 2000, on the occasion of the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the Committee:

Considering the essential role of the United Nations in maintaining peace and security in the world,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

Bearing in mind also the words of his recent report entitled "We the peoples ...",

Considering the persistence of tensions, crises and conflicts in Central Africa,

Taking note in particular of the tireless efforts of the United Nations to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts in the Central African subregion, *inter alia,* by establishing and providing continued support for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa,

Pay warm tribute to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Kofi Annan, for all his initiatives in favour of peace, security and stability in our subregion, especially in Angola, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Salute his recent visit to Central Africa (Gabon, the Central African Republic, and Cameroon) in conjunction with the thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of our Committee, and welcome the message he delivered on peace security and stability on that occasion, and

Encourage the Secretary-General in his efforts to strengthen the initiatives in order to restore peace, stability and security to Africa in general and to Central Africa in particular.

Done at N'Djamena on 6 May 2000

United Nations A/54/890–S/2000/512

General Assembly
Security Council

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1 June 2000

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General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 43
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 31 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to respond to the letter addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Lebanon, dated 22 May, concerning the withdrawal of Israeli forces in Lebanon (A/54/880-S/2000/465).

The Government of Israel adopted a decision, on 5 March 2000, to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. That decision was carried out on 24 May, as the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) redeployed to the international border.

It should be emphasized that the IDF completed the withdrawal swiftly and with maximum restraint, despite efforts by terrorists in the area to provoke a confrontation. The only instances in which force was used occurred when lives were at risk, and even then in a manner designed to avoid further casualties. The IDF, in fact, took pains to avoid any actions that might endanger innocent civilians, even as the terrorists cynically sought to use civilians as human shields. The Israeli forces were soon deployed safely on the Israeli side of the international border.

Israel had repeatedly expressed its preference for carrying out the withdrawal in the framework of a peace agreement. However, these efforts were not reciprocated in kind. Therefore, Israel finally undertook to withdraw unilaterally. The withdrawal was completed in full compliance with Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978). It should be recalled that in resolution 425 (1978), the Security Council calls not only for the withdrawal of Israeli forces but also for the restoration of international peace and security and the return of the effective authority of the Government of Lebanon to the area.

Now that the withdrawal has been concluded, we expect that the Government of Lebanon will fulfil its responsibility of ensuring peace and security within its borders. International law prohibits any State from allowing its territory to be a launching pad for terrorist activities. Israel reserves its right to act in self-defence should the need arise.

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Prime Minister Ehud Barak made an appeal to the Government of Lebanon following Israel's withdrawal, in a special session of the Knesset held on 25 May 2000, in the northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shemona, where terrorists had rained hundreds of katyusha rockets from Lebanon over the years. "I appeal to the Government and people of Lebanon," Mr. Barak said. "I appeal to you, President Emile Lahoud. Israel extends its hand toward peace out of a vision of a joint future better for the children of both peoples. Let's exploit the moment, let's talk peace."

We call upon our neighbours to seize the momentum and return to the negotiating table so that we can bring peace to the region and security to our common borders.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/54/891

General Assembly

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2 June 2000

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 57 and 84

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening on International Security

Letter dated 31 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the Vilnius Statement. The document was signed by the seven Ministers for Foreign Affairs and two Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the respective Central European countries on 19 May 2000 at Vilnius (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 57 and 84.

(*Signed*) Gediminas **Šerkšnys**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 31 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Vilnius Statement

We have gathered today in Vilnius to demonstrate our solidarity and commitment to the creation of a Europe whole and free in an alliance including the countries of Europe, the United States and Canada as the foundation for stability and security in the twenty-first century.

We subscribe to the fundamental and common values of the Euro-Atlantic community, including a belief in individual liberty, the free market and the rule of law. We not only share these values but consider ourselves to have contributed to their development in Europe over the centuries. Our desire to integrate into the institutions of the Euro-Atlantic community emanates from our readiness to assume our fair share of responsibility for the common defence and to add our voice to the debate on our common future. Having experienced the consequences of political indifference towards the fate of others far too often in our own history, we are committed to defend these values in order to contribute to freedom and peace.

We recognize that security for Europe and North America lies in maintaining a strong transatlantic alliance. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to the completion of the historic project of a Europe whole and free. In this regard, we welcome the contribution of the newest members of the Alliance, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary as an important step in achieving this vision. Their membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has enhanced European stability and contributed significantly to the military strength and political cohesion of NATO.

We are not only prepared for the responsibilities and burdens of NATO membership today, but we are already coordinating our defence structures and policies with the Alliance and contributing to NATO political and military undertakings. Furthermore, we remain committed to practical and political efforts to further improve the specific qualifications of our countries, including implementation of the Membership Action Plan. While each country should be considered on its own merits, we believe that the integration of each democracy will be a success for us all and the integration of all our countries will be a success for Europe and NATO.

We welcome the commitment by NATO Heads of State at the Washington Summit that the transatlantic link remains as important for our future as it has been in the past and that NATO will remain the institution of choice when Europe and the United States decide to act together. The Alliance remains the foundation of the collective defence of its members and must be capable of addressing both current and future threats to our common values through crisis management.

We also welcome the commitment of the European Union to build a Common European Security and Defense Policy that fulfils Europe's aspirations and strengthens the transatlantic link, and we are ready to contribute to those efforts. We recognize that NATO and the European Union are the two central foundations of the Euro-Atlantic community and that we must pursue accession in both institutions if we are to fully reintegrate our democracies into the community we share. We recognize that these aspirations are complementary, and we are committed to pursuing both objectives in parallel.

We are determined to contribute to the efforts of the European Union as well as NATO missions. The stabilization, reconstruction and integration of South-East Europe into the European mainstream is in our common interest. Therefore, we pledge our continued support for the efforts of the international community to restore stability in the Western Balkans.

We are firmly convinced that the integration of our democracies into NATO and the European Union will facilitate the creation of a free, prosperous and undivided Europe. Today, we reiterate our common commitment to work together cooperatively to achieve this goal. Our goal will not be reached until each of us, as well as other European democracies sharing the values of the Euro-Atlantic community and able to bear its common responsibilities, has been fully integrated into these institutions. We call upon the member States of NATO to fulfil the promise of the Washington Summit to build a Europe whole and free. We call upon

the member States at the next NATO Summit in 2002 to invite our democracies to join NATO.

Vilnius, 19 May 2000

For Albania
Xhufi **Pellumb**
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Bulgaria
Nadezhda **Mihailova**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Estonia
Toomas Hendrik **Ilves**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Latvia
Indulis **Bērziņš**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Lithuania
Algirdas **Saudargas**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Macedonia
Nikola **Dimitrov**
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Romania
Petre **Roman**
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Slovakia
Eduard **Kukan**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For Slovenia
Dimitrij **Rupel**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Nations A/54/892–S/2000/539

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 63
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 5 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 27 April 2000 (A/54/852-S/2000/370), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 27 and 30 April 2000, as well as 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 26 May 2000.

On 27 April, four C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. Two of the aircraft departed the airport on the same day, while the other two departed on the morning of the next day.

On 30 April, 18 Turkish military aircraft (14 F-16, 3 C-160 and 1 CN-235) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus as follows: the 14 F-16 and the 3 C-130 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) and patrolling in a search-and-rescue mission before exiting.

On 1 May, three Turkish military aircraft (two F-4 and one CN-235) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The two F-4 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting the Nicosia FIR.

On 4 May, two Turkish military aircraft (one C-160 and one F-4) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Apostolos Andreas) before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The F-4 violated

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the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 5 May, 18 Turkish military aircraft (14 F-16, 3 C-160 and 1 CN-235) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara. The C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before exiting in a south-easterly direction. At noon on the same day, the two aircraft, with an extra C-160, violated once more international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara. The CN-235 aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting the Nicosia FIR.

On 8 May, one CN-235 and two F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The CN-235 violated the national airspace of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara. The F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 9 May, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction. Early in the afternoon of the same day, the same aircraft violated once more international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 10 May, one KC-135 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a south-easterly direction.

On 12 May, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The B-200 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before landing at 1100 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou, in the occupied area of the Republic. The said aircraft departed the airport on the same day at 1532 hours.

On 16 May, 10 Turkish military aircraft (8 F-16 and 2 F-4) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 17 May, eight Turkish military aircraft (four F-16 and four F-4) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 18 May, eight Turkish military aircraft (two F-16 and six F-4) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations.

On 25 May, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

While strongly protesting these actions, which violate international law as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and calling for their cessation, I would like, once more, to express the hope that the necessary positive attitude will be shown by Turkey so that the efforts for finding a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, will not be adversely affected.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 63, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotos **Zackheos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/54/893

General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (b)
Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on Burma/Myanmar issued on 24 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 116 (b).

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Burma/Myanmar issued on 24 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

Ten years after the 1990 legislative elections in Burma/Myanmar, which the democratic party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), won by such a convincing margin, the European Union deeply regrets that the Burmese authorities still fail to respect the clear democratic verdict of the people.

The European Union furthermore expresses its grave concern that the period leading up to this anniversary has been marked by fresh arrests of NLD activists.

It reiterates its call on the Burmese authorities to respect human rights, restore democracy and engage in a dialogue with opposition parties and ethnic minorities that could lead to lasting national reconciliation in a united and democratic State.

The European Union also recalls its willingness to send a further Troika mission to Rangoon/Yangon to promote positively and constructively the aims of the European Union's policy towards Burma/Myanmar through the establishment of a meaningful political dialogue.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and Iceland and Liechtenstein, countries members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement concerning the judgement handed down against Mr. Chigir, issued on 25 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 116 (b).

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

00-46480 (E) 080600 120600

Annex to the letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement concerning the judgement handed down against Mr. Chigir, issued on 25 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

Bearing in mind that Mr. Chigir's return to prison would have put paid to any hope of establishing the climate of confidence necessary for the holding and observation of democratic elections in Belarus, the European Union notes that he remains at liberty.

However, the sentence imposed on Mr. Chigir on 19 May 2000 is designed to prevent him from playing a proper part in politics and in the coming elections in his country.

The European Union regrets this further instance of the use of legal proceedings against opposition figures for political purposes, which:

- illustrates the blurring of powers in Belarus, although separation of powers forms a basic principle of all European democracies;
- does not help efforts to establish the conditions deemed essential to the organization of free, democratic elections;
- also casts doubt on the credibility of the national dialogue process set in motion by the authorities, just when they have agreed to hold talks with opposition parties.

The European Union, which since Mr. Chigir's arrest in March 1999 has constantly denounced the political exploitation of this case, like others before it, therefore keenly hopes that the hearing of the appeal lodged by Mr. Chigir before the Supreme Court in Belarus may provide an opportunity to revise the judgement against him and thus facilitate the holding of the coming elections in an acceptable manner.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on human rights in Nepal, issued on 30 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 116 (b).

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

00-46506 (E) 080600 090600

Annex to the letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on human rights in Nepal, issued on 30 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the decision by Prime Minister Koirala's Government in Nepal to extend the mandate of the Deuba Commission, which has been set up to create a cross-party consensus among the country's democratic groups and pave the way for negotiations with the Maoist insurgents. In the European Union's view a negotiating process offers the best chance of resolving Nepal's problems for the longer term.

The European Union has observed with growing concern the escalation of the internal conflict following the declaration of the people's war more than four years ago. Maoist attacks against representatives of the democratic State and civilians are always inacceptable and, frequently, barbarian. The avowed aim of the insurgents is to overturn the democratic order.

The European Union upholds the Government of Nepal's right to defend the country's newly established democracy in countering this terrorist insurgency. The European Union notes that the democratic State has the sole right to use legitimate force to preserve the rights and security of its citizens. The European Union believes that the authorities in Nepal must seek to establish basic security and an environment in which developmental efforts to overcome poverty can be pursued, and that the insurgency hinders the development process.

The Union notes that a number of international authorities including the United Nations special rapporteur on extrajudicial killings, Amnesty International and the United States State Department have reported on extensive human rights abuses by both the insurgents and the Nepal police following the Maoists' declaration of the people's war.

The European Union calls on the Maoist insurgents to call an immediate halt to their violence and on the Nepalese Government to ensure that its representatives act uniquely within the bounds of the law.

The European Union also recalls that it is the responsibility of the Government in Kathmandu, through effective leadership and proper governance, to investigate allegations of extremely serious human rights abuses by the Nepalese police, including extrajudicial killings, torture and disappearances, and systematically to prosecute those responsible. The Government must, in the view of the European Union, issue strong and clear guidelines to the Nepal police to avoid the recurrence of such abuses in the future. The culture of impunity must be ended.

The European Union therefore strongly urges both parties to redouble their efforts to create the necessary conditions to enter into early and serious negotiations leading to a full and permanent peace.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.